

AMMA NEWS

THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.
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Editor Dr. G. H. Chopourian

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1880-84



A.M.A.A. HEADQUARTERS

WE SHALL CELEBRATE

By Archie Cherkezian



Mr. Archie Cherkezian
AMAA President

THE SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY OF THE AMAA

In the year 1978, the Armenian Missionary Association will celebrate its Sixtieth year of faithful, joyful and willing service to God and his creatures. In that period the Association witnessed a Holocaust, Dispersion, Depression and Destruction for our people, but never once did it repudiate the precept of its founders "that to the end we may stand firmly in the faith."

Further, a scrutiny of the record of the Association for the past six decades vividly reveals, in the words of WINSTON CHURCHILL, that

"Now this is not the end

It is not even the beginning of the end

But it is, perhaps the end of the beginning,"

for the Association demonstrated by its humble and unyielding adherence to Christ's call "to help the least among you" in those lean days, that it will strive towards greater service in the next sixty years;

The end of the first 60 years is at hand. We pray that the end of this new beginning, 60 years hence, will conclude an age of comfort, peace and God's blessing for our people.

BUT THE PAST IS YET TO BE

However, we cannot rest upon prayers alone. We must act now if 1978 is to signify the beginning of a new era. But why should the commemorative year signal an expansion in the dreams and visions of the Armenian Missionary Association? What has brought about this desire for greater service to God's Kingdom?

When one contemplates the present plight of Armenians throughout the world, one is awed, then disturbed, then enraged—enraged that due to limited funds and passive on-lookers, the task of giving aid and solace to the desperately needy, who have increased geometrically, cannot be fully completed. So much has to be done, unless greater help is forthcoming, we will not be able to resolve our past inabilities or coming cares.

In the 60 years behind us, we started by creeping; then, we crawled; now, we walk valiantly and administer to our World Wide missions efficiently—every dollar used as it should be. Our proficient office staff enables us to give the maximum benefit to our needy from every donation.

These, then, are the reasons for our future concerns: to turn passive on-lookers to participants; to remove the bot-

tlenecks of our limitations; to turn inabilities to victories; to run uprightly and not be weary.

PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED

But a colleague asked why should I give at all; if I do give why to the AMAA and if I have given why should I increase my donations? These are legitimate questions and ones we all meditate on. To whom shall we allot our charitable donations! I, for one can answer that question categorically and have cleared my mind of the brush, seeing straight down a clear, open lane. Three considerations have dissolved the fog!

MAN CANNOT LIVE WITHOUT GOD

The beliefs of the AMAA founders in the Christian faith and God have manifested themselves over and over again. The 1976-1977 budget provided \$4,500 for Theological Training and \$10,000 for Christian leadership training; \$5,000 for Evangelism; \$5,430 for our Missionary to Iran; \$5,300 towards our churches in South America; \$7,200 for Evangelism in the Middle East; \$16,000 to Unions of Churches for Home Missions; loans to the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and assistance to any church to sustain it in its need; special provision of \$15,000 for Social Services in the U.S. as a faith project. The list is endless. Dr. Chopourian noted in his Annual Report a total budgetary commitment of 23 per cent to Churches, Missions, Evangelism, Theological and Leadership Training, with increasing emphasis on our responsibilities in the United States. The warp and weft of faith has been a singularly strong span supporting the bay of our Association.

The Association thus idealizes the first consideration.

PEOPLE MUST HAVE IDENTITY

Association activities and services are directed towards Armenians. Who of us born to this glorious Armenian heritage would wish to deny our birthright. It is more precious than gems and more worthy than the finest satin. We are Armenians—our eyes, our noses, our blood—and more, our unique indomitable spirit. No matter where we are; no matter in what profession; in what white or blue collar position; we yearn for identity. Your identification gives you a sense of belonging, a sense of security—and for us that identity is the ethnic culture of Armenians.

The Armenian Missionary Association amplifies the second consideration.

FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS FRUITLESS

(James 2:14-17)

Thoreau averred that philanthropy is almost the only virtue which is significantly appreciated by mankind. Francis Bayard Rhein writes: "How can a faith that does not manifest itself in actions be of any value? Can that kind of faith save a man? What good is it to tell the naked and hungry to go their way in peace, to say be warm, be fed and not give them what they need? Similarly, a faith that doesn't motivate action is dead. One man simply claims to have faith, another makes no such claim, but does good deeds. The first cannot make his faith visible in order to prove it, but the second, by his works, demonstrates that he has faith."

The AMAA is the conduit for such charity.

Have you seen the face of the young boy in the Interior of Turkey shown by Dr. Chopourian in his slide presentation of the AMAA in action? He is a young Armenian lad, un-

aware of his magnificent forebears, slowly starving, sullen and completely blank.

See him again, years later after being liberated to Beirut, fed, housed and educated at Haigazian—a bright, alert Armenian ready to take his place in society.

An old man, an Armenian, shabbily dressed, half-starved, trying to warm himself over the embers of a dying fire—the only warmth keeping him alive being the inner flame of his spirit. I saw him in Narmak, outside Teheran. Now, through the AMAA and its church in Teheran, he has clothers on his back and food in his stomach.

Multiply these scenes by the thousands and the condition of our people will be clearly discernable.

This is the third requisite.

The AMAA symbolizes charity at its fullest.

In all of life, a person must establish priorities. One friend told me, "We have so many social friends, time does not permit visiting them all. Whom do we visit? There are so many people in need; whom do we assist? Do we aid the needy but vogue millions or do we give relief to those dearest and nearest?"

In our minds we must draw the lines. For myself the

AMAA has completely satisfied my stipulations: The Association has re-affirmed my faith; the Association has re-established my identity as an Armenian; it has permitted me the privilege of donating my hard-earned money to a charitable institution which I have evaluated best serves, by its programs and its experience, those causes I hold dear.

HOW ABOUT YOUR PRIORITIES?

I suggest we all sit down and take a hard look at our Charitable donations! Is the organization efficiently run? Is it serving our fellow Armenians? Are the programs formulated by the organization those I am interested in? Are they under the "surveillance" of the Scriptures?

Think deep, think well—the fog will also dissolve for you and you will join with me and thousands of others, uniting hands and uniting funds across the globe, by increasing your donations to our beloved AMAA, to insure that our Armenian countrymen will be able to say, "We are strong in our faith for you helped us with our churches, in North America, in Australia, in South America, in Canada, in the Middle East; we are strong in our mind and our body for you schooled and fed us and we are one for you did not forget us"—in the year 2038.

IN OUR MINDS WE MUST DRAW THE LINES. FOR MYSELF THE AMAA HAS
COMPLETELY SATISFIED MY STIPULATIONS—Archie Cherkezian

The Inspirational Corner

PSALM 66

Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands:
Sing forth the honor of his name: make his praise glorious.
Say unto God, How terrible art thou in thy works! through the greatness of thy power shall thine enemies submit themselves unto thee.

All the earth shall worship thee, and shall sing unto thee; they shall sing to thy name.

Come and see the works of God: he is terrible in his doing toward the children of men.

He turned the sea into dry land: they went through the flood on foot: there did we rejoice in him.

He ruleth by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves.

O bless our God, ye people, and make the voice of his praise to be heard:

Which holdeth our soul in life, and suffereth not our feet to be moved.

For thou, O god, hast proved us: thou laidst affliction upon our loins.

Thou hast caused men to ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place.

I will go into thy house with burnt offerings: I will pay thee my vows,

Which my lips have uttered, and my mouth hath spoken, when I was in trouble.

I will offer unto thee burnt sacrifices of fatlings, with the incense of rams: I will offer bullocks with goats.

Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul.

I cried unto him with my mouth, and he was extolled with my tongue.

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer.

Bless be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me.

AMAA SPONSORS SUCCESSFUL SACRED MUSIC CONCERT



Sacred Music Singers

A concert of Sacred Music by the newly-founded SACRED MUSIC SINGERS presented a special program of sacred songs from great masters on Sunday, May 22nd, under the auspices of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, with the joint Choral Groups of the Armenian Presbyterian Church, N.J., Armenian Evangelical Church, N.Y., and Armenian Martyrs' Cong'l Church of Havertown, Pa.. The joint choirs, which also included singers outside the Churches, was under the able direction of the Rev. Dicran Y. Kassouny, M.D., who in addition to his talent of ministry and medicine, is gifted with musical capabilities.



Flutists Jeannette and Laurence Bakalian

Sunday May 22nd was a special day for the Armenian Evangelical Community. Being Missions Sunday, the morning message from the altar of the Armenian Presbyterian Church was on the work of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, which was visibly demonstrated to those at worship in colored slides. A luncheon followed the service, creating an occasion for socializing as well as nourishment.

The afternoon concert, which was held at the Sanctuary of the Armenian Presbyterian Church, proved to be an additional valuable contribution to the Armenian Evangelical Community in its new home, the United States.

The Concert included English and Armenian selections. The Armenian portion included works from Komitas, Ekmalian, and Uvezian, while the English included numbers from Bach, Mendelssohn, Arhangelsky, Vivaldi, Beethoven, Handel and Mozart.

The purpose of the founding of the Sacred Music Singers was interpreted to those in attendance by Mr. Archie Cherkezian, the President of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, in the following words:

"Back in the latter part of the 30's and through the 40's, there was a lively group of singers known as the SACRED MUSIC SINGERS who practised and performed under the baton of Rev. Dicran Kassouny, M.D. The SMS, as it came to be known, had as its purpose, the edifying of hearts through sacred music. The group came to be well-known and well-liked. Then, with the departure of Dr. Kassouny to these shores, the group faded away like old soldiers do. It was revived here in Paramus.

A short statement as to how it was revived is in order. The Reverend Bernard Guekguezian suggested to Dr. Kassouny that a choir be formed to perform on the occasion of the One Million Dollar Campaign of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America. This was not pursued for some time, and Dr. Chopourian was taken into the circle, for further deliberations, yet the mechanics of putting a group in order did not occur at that time. When Dr. Kassouny was riding with the Chopourians to return home after the Worcester Family Conference, the question was raised again. What can one do in a car for four hours but dream! Dr. Kassouny expressed his willingness if it were under the auspices of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, after persuasive arguments that his added talent in music, besides the ministry and medicine, should be brought alive.

With the action of the Armenian Missionary Association Board of Directors to sponsor the Sacred Music Singers as a project of the AMAA the faded former SMS was resuscitated and came again under the baton of Dr.

Kassouny. From a small group, the number grew to 51, with the participation of the New York and Havertown churches. The Board of Directors join me in extending thanks to the Directors of SMS, Dr. Kassouny, the members of the SMS, the Committee and the three churches represented—New York, Paramus, Havertown. God bless your sacred endeavors and your services to the Armenian community."

As a first time presentation, the Choir sang unusually well, giving both inspiration and enjoyment to those in attendance. In appreciation, the capacity crowd made generous contributions when an offering was taken at the conclusion. Separate contributions were also made by "sponsors" of the project to support the affair. Hardly enough can be said for the members of the SMS Committee who worked hard for the realization of the concert.

Due acknowledgement to the Committee as well as floral recognitions were made to the Soloists, Mrs. Sossy Hanessian and Miss Alicia Karamanian; to Mrs. Ann Wallis, the accompanist; to Mr. Thomas McBeth, accompanist and Armenian Evangelical Church Choir Director; to Mrs. Frances Lowe, the Armenian Presbyterian Church Organist; to Mrs. Gladys Keuhnelian, assistant to the SMS Music Director; to Dr. Dicran Kassouny, the SMS Choir Director, whose wife was also recognized with a corsage; and to Mrs. Marguerite Dokouzian, Chairman of the SMS Committee.

The SMS Program was thought to be a very high level performance which added stature to Armenian community life. From the many positive commendations of some individuals attending the Concert, we quote: "I am so glad I was able to attend the Sacred Music Singers Concert which I thought was a tremendous success. I especially enjoyed the Armenian pieces by Ekmalian. Congratulations to you for initiating the revival of this choral group and to Dr. Kassouny for doing such an outstanding job of directing it. I hope that this can be an annual affair."

The Armenian Evangelical Community is to be commended for this superb effort and it is hoped that the Sacred Music Singers will be a permanent feature in the coming years, thus cultivating the sacred music dimension of the Armenian Heritage.

THE TELFEYAN EVANGELICAL FUND



Dr. Sarkis and Elida Telfeyan of the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund

On May 29, 1976 the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Inc. had its 60th birthday. Incorporated by the Secretary of State of the State of New York on May 29, 1916, it has been effectively functioning as a philanthropic family foundation for sixty years.

Philanthropic works were in the very mainstream of the family for many generations. Garabed Telfeyan, father of the founders of the Fund, was born in 1835. He learned to read and write by translating the Bible (probably New Testament) from ancient Armenian to

modern Armenian. He was greatly influenced by the missionaries. Garabed Telfeyan started attending Protestant services and was deeply moved and impressed by the religious approach. The family changed over from the Apostolic Church to the Protestant Church in 1863.

The missionaries had started schools and colleges throughout Turkey, but there were no colleges in Kayseri. Young men interested in pursuing their education had to leave Kayseri for college level studies. Garabed Telfeyan made a promise that someday there would be a college in Kayseri. He set aside funds for this purpose. This was, perhaps, the first documented tangible philanthropic endeavor of the Telfeyan family.

The present Telfeyan Evangelical Fund, Inc. was brought to fruition as specified in the will of Sarkis G. Telfeyan "to promote the cause of evangelical Christianity, benevolence and Christian education."

Although the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York was dear to the heart of the founders, aid was given to churches all over America and the world. The minutes of a meeting show a disbursement of \$90.60 for "Ministers' robes". It must have been quite a sum for 1921. Ministers and their families were helped no matter where or what church. The earliest disbursements showed an ecumenical outreach that was truly progressive for

its day. Funds were given to Protestant Churches and to the churches of the Diocese and Prelacy. The Armenian General Benevolent Union and the Armenian Missionary Association were funded through the years.

Scholarship grants were set up in selected universities, such as: The University of Chicago, Stanford University, Columbia University, Harvard University, Adelphi University, The McGeorge School of Law of the University of the Pacific, and Haigazian College. Armenian students interested in attending these schools are urged to apply to the Financial Aid offices of these institutions. Funds are also given to the Armenian Students Association and the Armenian General Benevolent Union. Funds given to the Armenian Missionary Association of America are used for benevolences as well as for scholarships. The \$5,000 given this year will be so used.

In the 1960's members to the Fund were tapped from the third generation. Membership on the Board today includes grandchildren of John G. Telfeyan, Herant G. Telfeyan and Albert G. Telfeyan. The fresh approach of this young generation shows that the tradition of caring continues with the same intensity as that of the founders.

It is the hope of the members that the Telfeyan Evangelical Fund will grow in its outreach to Armenians for many generations.

AMAA SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Dr. John G. Keuhnelian, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, has announced that for the academic year 1975-76, scholarships and loans were granted to 20 students in the United States totalling \$14,089 and to 42 U.S. students for the academic year 1976-77 totalling to \$24,850. Scholarships assigned were from various AMAA sources such as:

- Samuel and Elizabeth Hekemian Family Trust;
- Telfeyan Evangelical Fund;
- James Mouradian Medical Scholarship Fund;
- Garabed and John Keuhnelian Endowment Fund;
- Hovhannes Jedidian Endowment Fund;

- Sarrah and Altoon Saprichian Endowment Fund;
- Stephen Philibosian Foundation;
- Stephen Philibosian Endowment Fund;
- Paul And Arousiag Iskiyan Fund;
- Through ATSA from 10 Funds for Theological Training.

The Scholarship Committee has gradually streamlined its operations, becoming a very efficient organ in the assignment of scholarship assistance to applicants. The following unwritten guidelines are operative in decision making:

- Applicants to comply with the requirement of completing application forms, providing references and, in the case of loans, to sign Promissory Notes.
- All checks to be issued to the higher educational institutions of the students' choice.

- Checks to be issued only after confirmation by the educational institution that students have actually registered for that year.

- Applications may not be considered unless students have evidence of acceptance by a college or university and know the exact amount of income and cost for the year.

- The parents of the applicants to provide information on their financial status, the Committee keeping such information confidential.

The AMAA has, in addition to the provision of scholarships in the United States, a Child Education Sponsorship Program overseas for which it provides an amount of \$77,000. Haigazian College students in Beirut receive \$15,000 for scholarships from the AMAA and \$25,000 from the Stephen Philibosian Foundation, an affiliate of the AMAA.

MR. HARRY ASLAN AND LIONISM

A.M.A.A.'s Tribute to A Humanitarian



Harry J. Aslan

During my visit to California on AMAA business, I had the opportunity and pride to meet an Armenian who has achieved excellence in business and particularly in a service area called "Lionism".

The Immediate Past President of Lions International, Mr. Harry Aslan, is a lion himself, a descendent of the Aslan family. For him, the greatest opportunity is to help his fellow man, to serve his community and to aid the needy.

Why? Why should a man who has achieved remarkable success as a businessman want to work overtime year after year in the service of others?

"The way I see it," says Mr. Aslan, "those of us who have achieved a measure of success should give something to our communities and to the world in return, as a way of repaying a portion of our endowment. We should consider it a humanitarian duty to help people less fortunate, who are sick, handicapped and in need of the basic necessities of life. We owe it to the world."

Harry Aslan's formula for achieving success in business and in Lionism can be neatly summarized: perseverance, dedication and a lot of hard work. And throughout his life, Harry Aslan has personified all three qualities.

He was born in Kingsburg on April 8, 1914, went to public schools in that city and attended the University of California for two years. His parents were immigrants from Armenia and it is they whom President Aslan credits with ingraining in him the spirit for work and community service. "My parents came to this land from a foreign country," says Harry Aslan, "they came here from Armenia. They settled on a farm in Kingsburg. They became citizens of their adopted country. They were industrious, resourceful, God-fearing and responsible citizens. On the farm they taught us to be squares. They told us to plow a square field square and work for our 3 squares each day. At the end of the year we were told to square our debts. Then we could look you square in the eye."

His father settled in Boston in 1896 and worked as a gardener for a wealthy

family. In 1903 he travelled to California and purchased a 40-acre farm in Kingsburg. Though he worked hard in the farm's vineyards, he still found time for community service. "Although he died when I was only 12 years old, I'll never forget how he encouraged us to become active in our community and to become concerned with the plight of other people," says Aslan.

In 1935, Harry Aslan took his first steps as a private businessman when he began harvesting and selling watermelons for a neighbor. In 1940 he became a grower himself, rented 20 acres in Kingsburg. He increased his acreage to 40 the next year. By the late 40's he was one of the valley's largest producers. In the 1960's melons began to be phased out of the district and he introduced new crops—nectarines, peaches, plums and grapes.

Harry Aslan does not limit his business interests to growing. He purchased an old packing plant in Kingsburg in 1943 and by the middle of the 50's it was in full operation. The old plant was torn down in 1962 and a modern one constructed, complete with cold storage and pre-cooling facilities. The plant, known as the Harry Aslan Company, is owned and operated exclusively by him.

One of the most successful projects of the Kingsburg Lions Club in the middle 1940's was its Watermelon Festival. More than 15,000 people attended every year and the funds the

Lions raised were allocated to their many service projects. But in order to have a successful Watermelon Festival you need plenty of watermelons. And during those years who was one of the biggest watermelon growers in the Central San Joaquin Valley? Harry Aslan, of course.

"I was selecting and procuring watermelons for the Lions long before I ever became a club member," relates Mr. Aslan. "After I joined the Kingsburg Club in 1949, I really went to work on those melons. During the festivals, I sliced and served so many melons for visitors that my fingers became blue. But it was worth it. Those funds helped us construct a football field at Kingsburg High School." Today, the field seats 6,000 spectators, and its lights, a fieldhouse and an electric scoreboard were all made possible by the Kingsburg Lions Club.

Harry Aslan became so deeply involved in his club's activities that he was elected a Vice-President in only his second year of membership. He served as President in 1953-54 and soon became involved on a district and statewide level. He served as a Zone Chairman and as Inter-Club Activities Chairman for District 4-A2. He then became a Deputy District Governor of District 4-A2, and in 1959-60 was District Governor. Following his term, he served for four years, 1962-66, as Chairman of his Multiple District's Membership Development Committee.

Lion Aslan's growing concern with the global involvement of Lions International led him in 1968 to become a candidate for International Director. He was elected at the International Convention that year in Dallas, Texas. His service on the International Board increased his desire to become further involved, and in 1972 he successfully campaigned for the office of Third International Vice-President and was elected by the delegates at the Mexico City Convention.

During his years as a Lion, he has earned a number of awards of medals, including the distinguished Ambassador of Good Will Award.

In addition to participating in his

Lions Club programs, though, President Aslan has been and is involved in a number of other community activities. He is the founding and current president of the Kingsburg Hospital District.



Lions International President, Harry J. Aslan, honoring President Gerald Ford

He has been a member of the executive committee of the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America, and for two years served as president of the Reedley College Advisory Committee. He also served six years as a board trustee of the Kingsburg High School District. President Aslan has also found time to serve as vice-president of the California Peach Association and president of the Central California Farmers' Association. He is still a member of both organizations.

President Aslan married Freeda on November 23, 1944. They have a son, Philip, 27, and a married daughter, Susan, 24.

"Freeda has been a vital helpmate to me in Lionism," says Aslan. "She has travelled extensively with me in my visits to Lions around the world and she has a deep and abiding compassion for people in need."

Harry Aslan's idealism of Lionism has been very much effected by Byrl Babcock's speech, a former administrative officer of the Association, while he was attending his first Multiple District Convention of the California and Nevada Lions. "He said something," explains Aslan, "which has served as a beacon for me through the years. As he urged us all to work unselfishly on behalf of our communi-

ties and the needy, he emphasized, 'We make a living by what we get, but we make life by what we give.' This simple, yet profound, statement embodies the true ideals of Lionism. Life is unfulfilling if we do not give something to posterity."

Lions International is the largest service club organization in the world. Its record of 60 years, from the inception of its founding, is convincing proof that the world has accepted and welcomed the services that the club has brought to humanity. Community service is the basic responsibility of every Lions Club and their motto is "WE SERVE." In this world of continuing poverty, deprivation and human misery, the Lions International Foundation stands as a beacon of hope, a selfless hand of assistance to those in greatest need.

Lions International has served the world effectively in the few short years of its existence, in restoring sight to thousands in India and Bangladesh who would have needlessly but inevitably spent their lives in darkness, in rebuilding a school in Cyprus for deaf children displaced by the ravages of war, in providing food and shelter to victims of drought, flood, hurricanes, earthquakes and tornadoes in Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Thailand, Honduras and the United States, just to name a few. This the Lions International Foundation has done and will continue to do.

The Immediate Past President of Lions International, Harry Aslan, believes in Unity. "Unity, Ladies and Gentlemen, unity. With it we can achieve wonders. When we stand together, we are an army of people dedicated to one single objective—'WE SERVE.' It is our purpose, it is our objective, it is our goal."

Harry Aslan has devoted his time, talent and substance to join with others in making his home town and through the love of Lions service the world a better place in which to live. And he has done this in appreciation of what America has provided for his beloved parents. In this great country of America where we are endowed with countless blessings and an abundance of the necessities of life, Aslan believes in sharing our endowments to bring about happiness into the lives of those who are distressed.

God bless this Aslan Armenian.

NOSTALGIC REFLECTIONS ON HAIGAZIAN COLLEGE

By Gilda Buchakjian



1973 H.C. Graduate, Gilda

Gilda Buchakjian is a Haigazian graduate, who majored in English Literature. During two consecutive years, she served as the editor of the Haigazian Herald. At the same time and during one academic year she was the Secretary of the Executive body of the Student Council of the College. Gilda came from Beirut in Dec., 1976. She is currently working with the Armenian General Benevolent Union of America, Inc., in New York City.

What is the big halo that hovers over Haigazian College? Why do Armenians in general tend to be patronizing, protective, and often speak in loving terms about it? It is not such an enigma. For those who do not know it, the main reason lies in the fact that Haigazian College is the only Armenian institution of higher learning in the diaspora. And it is the baby of Armenians, owing its continuing existence to all of you.

The Armenian imprint of this College is unmistakable, and the desire to keep that national cachet glowing has always been a driving force for the concerned Armenian.

The fact that this College is Armenian makes it more prominent and outstanding in the host country which is Lebanon, the culture of which is different than ours, the language of which is unlike ours. The very existence of Haigazian College is a vital evidence of

(cont'd on page 11)

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORTS

It was a privilege for me to visit the supporting churches of the Armenian Missionary Association of America within a period of five weeks.

ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF GREATER DETROIT

My first stop was in the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit, located in Southfield. The beautiful, modern church structure, with a social hall and attached Sunday



Detroit Family Conference leaders: Avedis Sogomian, ardent layman; Dr. Knel Tourian; the Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian; the Rev. Apraham Jizmejian; the Rev. Barkev Darakjian.

School rooms and offices, is a delight to watch and the Sanctuary is worshipful. The Church campus was augmented in its looks and financial usefulness by a large two-storey medical building which brings substantial income to the Church coffers. After the Worship Service, during which I was given the opportunity to preach an Armenian and an English sermon, the AMAA Chapter offered lunch to a large group of the membership. Following lunch, I presented in word and picture the ongoing work of the Association which was received enthusiastically and warmly. Numerous members became sponsors of the Child Education Sponsorship Program that the Association administers. The Pastor, the Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, and the Chairman of the AMAA Chapter, Mr. Haig Arabian, were most gracious and helpful during my entire stay of one week in Detroit and surroundings and Mrs. Chopourian and I were "hotel" guests at the Bardizians for over a week.

ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHICAGO

My next visit was to the Armenian Congregational Church of Chicago, the Rev. Barkev Darakjian, Pastor. The Church on Sheridan Road is a block or two east of the famous Gold

Coast of Lake Michigan. Mrs. Chopourian and I were "hotel" guests for three nights in the Darakjian residence and an evening at the Melkonians in La Grange, Ill. Following the Armenian and English sermons on Sunday, I followed the same routine of explaining the work of the Association in word and picture at a coffee fellowship in the Social Hall of the Church. Hearts were warmed for missions and monetary as well as service responses were encouraging.

OPEN AIR WORSHIP SERVICE IN TORONTO

Driving on to Toronto, I spoke at an Open Air Worship Service organized by the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto just preceding a Fathers' Day picnic, inclusive of Shish Kebab and trimmings. This was a great opportunity for me to meet many Armenian members of the community, some of whom have already made a great place for themselves. On Wednesday night of that same week, the Social Hall of the Church was full with young and old, male and female, whose res-



Outdoor Worship Service at Petticoat Park, Toronto: Rev. A. Jizmejian (sitting); Dr. G.H. Chopourian giving the morning message.

ponse to the appeals for missions was extremely generous—close to 10 persons undertaking sponsorships of children in Syria, Lebanon and Turkey. Entertained royally by the Pastor and his gracious wife as "hotel" guests in their home and also in the Eudjuran and Helvadjan families, time was available for many visits and telephone contacts.

FIRST MIDWEST FAMILY CONFERENCE

From Toronto I retraced my "wheels" to Detroit to attend the first Midwest Family Conference, held on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan, June 17-19,

1977. It proved to be an outstanding success, with 122 enthusiastic participants attending.

Churches participating in the Conference were the Armenian Congregational Church of Chicago, the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto and the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit, with the latter ac-



Chicago Church sanctuary and parsonage

ting as host church. Chairman of the event was the Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, Pastor of the Detroit church. Other Conference leaders were the Rev. Barkev Darakjian of Chicago, Rev. Abraham Jizmejian of Toronto, Rev. Dr. Giragos Chopourian of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Miss Janet Janigian of Detroit, and Guest Speaker Dr. Knel Touryan of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Dr. Touryan, a renowned scientist, author, editor and professor, is also very active in Christian youth ministries in Albuquerque and around the country, and his dynamic participation in the Conference was one of its highlights.

Intended as a time of spiritual and educational enrichment for the Midwestern Armenian Evangelicals, the Conference offered a splendid opportunity for the constituents to live, learn and grow together in an atmosphere of fellowship and sharing. Activities of the convention, which centered around the theme "Authentic Christianity," included Bible study sessions, discussion groups, song fests, panel discussions, lectures, and a slide presentation. An exceptionally inspiring session was the Period of Sharing, in which each Minister and the Guest Speaker shared with the assembly his own personal spiritual pilgrimage to the Christian faith and ministry. A

reception was held on Friday evening of the Conference, and on Saturday evening Rev. Tootikian invited all participants and their families to his home. The Summer Family Conference was planned for all age groups and offered something of interest to each and every participant.

The climax of the entire weekend was a United Worship and Communion Service on Sunday morning at the Armenian Congregational Church of Greater Detroit, with all the clergy and the guest speaker participating. The Chancel Choir of the host church rendered beautifully their musical selections, which were enhanced by organ and trumpet accompaniment. Following the Service, a Talent Show was presented by the host church and then a Father's Day Picnic was enjoyed by the local congregation and their Conference guests.

ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES IN MONTREAL

From Detroit, I drove straight on to Montreal from Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and the following morning and afternoon preached at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal



Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal: Mrs. Jirayr Bzdigian; Rev. Jirayr Bzdigian; Mrs. Chopourian; the Rev. Ardashes Kerbabian; Mr. Mardiros Eylencian; Mrs. Eylencian.

and the First Armenian Evangelical Church respectively. Many in the Armenian Evangelical Church joined our Child Education Sponsorship in addition to support for other projects of the Association and about 17 children were sponsored by members and leaders of the First Church. In both churches, I was privileged to preach and to present the work of the Association in word and picture at coffee fellowship hours.

SECOND EAST COAST FAMILY CONFERENCE

Returning to the office in Paramus just in time for the final touches of the preparations for the July 4th Picnic, I then proceeded to Worcester for the Second East Coast Family Conference where I led, just as in the First Family Midwest Conference in Detroit, a session on missions. The Family Conference of the AEU-NA was again held at the Assumption College in Worcester, Mass., Friday, June 24th through Sunday June 26th. Churches participating in the Conference extended from Montreal down to Havertown Pennsylvania in the South. Four churches were represented with pastors and delegates and three churches with their pastors. Chairman of the Conference was the Rev. Bernard Guekguezian and the Rev. Herald Hassessian was the able Coordinator. Other Conference leaders were the Rev. Peter Doghramji, the Rev. Leon Tavitian and myself representing the AMAA. Dr. Doghramji, Pastor of the Armenian Congregational Church of Havertown, was the Bible expounder for the Conference who presented studies from the "Letter to the Colossians". He was lucid, practical and inspiring.

The theme of the Conference was "Life Together" and the emphasis was for a "New Togetherness in Christ". The Conference thus offered opportunities for deep fellowship and all were made aware that living and sharing together as renewed persons in Christ would provide growth for our churches.

The weekend was concluded with a united worship and Communion Service on Sunday morning at the Armenian Church of the Martyrs in Worcester with the Rev. Bernard Guekguezian preaching the Armenian Sermon and Dr. Peter Doghramji the English. The able Choral Director, the Rev. Dicran Kassouny, M.D., the Maestro of the newly-established Sacred Music Singers, quickly put together a joint choir composed of the members of churches represented and a beautiful selection was rendered. The Worship Service was enhanced by a solo by Miss Silvia Kutchukian, a Metropolitan Opera Singer.

Following the service, lunch was served at the Armenian Church of the

Martyrs by the hard working ladies of the Church.

SECOND JULY FOURTH PICNIC SPONSORED BY THE AMAA

At the July 4th Picnic we had a wonderful turnout with guests from Boston, Troy, Montreal, New York and from even California and London. The one attractive feature of the Picnic-



A visit with the distinguished philanthropist Alex Manoogian (left to right); G.H. Chopourian; Alex Manoogian; The Rev. Dr. Tootikian.

was the generous gifts of Miss Ruth Philibosian, Mr. George Moomjy and Mr. Archie Cherkezian whose donations in kind were offered to three lucky guests as door-prize-courtesy from the Association.



A visit with the benefactors, the Henry Gertmenian family (left to right); Mr. & Mrs. H. Gertmenian; Dr. & Mrs. P. Gertmenian.

WE TRY HARDER

The Armenian Missionary Association of America continues to believe that it is NUMBER TWO but it tries harder. We are proud of its purposes, its past achievements and look hopefully for its future success and growth. Join hand with us to promote its many projects among which the Haigazian College stands like a pillar of light. Establish your priorities correctly, viz.: *Your Home, Your Church and Union, Your AMAA, your other Charities* in that order.

SET MOMJIAN, OUR DISTINGUISHED BOARD MEMBER, NAMED TO DNC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Joel McCleary, Treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, announced that Set Momjian has been named to serve on the Executive Committee of the Democratic National



Set Momjian and Jimmy Carter at Plains, Ga. early in the Presidential Campaign.

Committee's National Finance Council. Momjian will also serve as National Director of Special Projects, a position he held during President Carter's successful campaign for President.

Kenneth M. Curtis, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, was elated with the willingness of Momjian to assume the responsibility dictated by a seat on the Executive Committee.

McCleary added, "It is encouraging and most supportive to see someone the caliber of Set come on board at a time like this. The Democratic Party has an awesome job remaining from previous campaigns, and we have the additional commitment, which we must assume, when taking on the more active political role which the President has requested we take."

Momjian was also selected to serve on the Dinner Committee of New York's Salute to President Carter held on June 23rd at the Waldorf Astoria. It was at the Waldorf last November that Momjian, who was National Chairman of the "Thank You America Committee," had a banquet attended by 1500 people. Close to \$600,000 was raised so that 21 rare American Tapestries by Albert Herter could be given to the

Metropolitan Museum of Art as a Bicentennial gift on behalf of 600,000 Armenian Americans. The Thank You America Banquet has been called one of the most meaningful events of the Bicentennial year.

He has been working with the wife of Congressman Frank Thompson, Jr. on an exhibit of Political Art and Inaugural material to be displayed in the Capitol building. Included in the exhibit will be Momjian's complete collection of inaugural invitations from George Washington to Jimmy Carter. The only other complete set of inaugural invitations known is owned by the Smithsonian.

Momjian was also active on the Inaugural Committee. He and his wife

Momjian served as Carter's Director of Special Projects.

were given a special treat when they were invited to be with the Carter family in the Presidential Box at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts on the evening of the Inaugural Concert. It was there that Momjian presented one of his 6 now famous miniature Liberty Bells to President Carter. The six small bells were cast from a piece taken from the original Liberty Bell when the crack was being repaired in 1847.

As Board member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Mr. Momjian was assigned the chairmanship of the Public Affairs Committee of the Association and as such has made extremely valuable suggestions for the promotion of the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebrations of the Association, set for the Fall of 1978. Mr. Momjian was unanimously voted by the Board of Directors to head the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebrations and to act as its Director for the duration. The Board of Directors are delighted to have Mr. Momjian aboard the Board and feel confident that his direction of the Sixtieth Anniversary Celebrations will be greatly helpful to the Association.

GIVING THE EASY WAY IF YOU CARE TO

Have you ever considered giving a substantial amount of money to the Church or to the Religious organization that you believe in? Have you thought about it and not been physically able to do so? Would you like to see how this can be done on a very inexpensive basis, where you only put out a few pennies every month and guarantee a large dollar sometime in the future? Would you like to see how this program would reduce federal estate taxes and state inheritance taxes, but still give you the flexibility of controlling your charitable contributions? Yes, this can be done, *through the magic of Life Insurance as a charitable donation, if you care.*

If you are interested, we have the ability of putting your estate into a computer and showing you what your estate costs are going to be without any planning at all, with just some minor changes by the use of wills, trusts, and the use of charitable contributions to your favorite religious organization.

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Northern New Jersey

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Tel: (209) 224 - 9000

See coupon on page 11

ORDINATION AT NEW YORK EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Prof. Zenas A. Ilanjan was ordained into the Christian ministry and formally installed as pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York on Sunday, June 22, 1977, at 3:00 p.m. The ordination was held in the church at 152 East 34th Street, New York, N.Y., at an impressive service conducted jointly by the Officers of the New York Conference and Association of the United Church of Christ, the AMAA and the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, in the presence of a capacity congregation.

Mr. George Philibosian, in his capacity as Moderator of the AEU-NA, expressed his congratulations in these words: "I am extremely pleased and happy to be able, on behalf of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, and personally, to congratulate both the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York for its excellent choice in the person of Rev. Ilanjan as its minister, as well as Rev. Ilanjan himself for accepting the important responsibility of occupying this pulpit which, as already mentioned, was filled in the past by some of our most distinguished clergymen."

Mr. Archie Cherkezian, President of the AMAA, greeted the congregation and the Pastor on behalf of the officers, Board of Directors and members of the Armenian Missionary Association of America in the following words: "This Church has been a bul-

wark of support for the Armenian Missionary Association in leadership, in members, in donations and in ideas. God's mission work through the Association has always been fostered and enhanced by the spirit of dedication and service by the Pastors of this Church. You will now join their ranks and the Armenian Missionary Association rejoices with this congregation in their selection of you as the Shepherd of the Flock." He then stressed the importance of the spirit of cooperation: "We are thankful to the Lord and continue to sing his praises for one of our missions, that of training leaders for our Evangelical movement, has seen some fulfillment in your person. The Armenian Missionary Association cannot exist without the cooperation and assistance of the Pastors of the Armenian Evangelical Union, for the Association, if it represents anything, must represent our churches in action. The affinity between the Church and its Missionary Arm can never be severed. It has been sealed by faith on the one hand, and by charitable acts manifested by that faith on the other hand. Yet, in the long range view of religious values, established by generations of struggle, although faith without action is not enough, action without faith is nothing."

The AMAA looks forward to the abundant contributions of the new Pastor and his selfless services and welcomes him as an addition to its membership. The world is in sore trouble and every force of faith must be harnessed to do battle. May God give him strength to achieve his appointed task and fulfil his responsibilities.

(cont'd from page 7)

the 'living Armenian'. Armenians have emerged from the ashes of their massacred fathers and grandfathers, stepped out of the confinement of their self-pity to assert themselves as being able to do more than just mourn the dead or rest on past laurels gained in the past. They have come to acquire education to help in the safeguarding of their ethnic heritage of which they are so proud. These educated ones will in the long run contribute some of their culture to the existing culture of the country they are in, and vice versa. Moreover, the interaction of contrasting cultures other than exposing us to different languages and heritages, will enhance the adjustability of the Armenian, his or her adaptability to non-Armenian environments.

The fact that Haigazian College has educated the children and grandchildren of native Lebanese Presidents, Prime Ministers, Parliament members and prominent professionals without discrimination, is the biggest propaganda our ethnic heritage can ever display. With the advent of the civil war in Lebanon, Haigazian College, like many other institutions was damaged and its enrollment decreased. The war made no distinctions as to who or what to spare. Everybody and every property had its share of misfortune. Now, more so than any other time, the existence of Haigazian should not be at stake. If only for the sake of those who will not have the possibility of leaving the country, Haigazian would be the only life-jacket they would cling to. Moreover, being one of the pillars denoting the *raison d'être* of Armenians in Lebanon, its operation is of utmost importance, not to say imperative.

Being a Haigazian graduate, I always look back at my recent years of study in that institution with longing nostalgia and gratitude. That place, in addition to inculcating me with the knowledge I went aspiring for, taught me a great deal more: including the sense of belonging to a family with my fellow students and professors, respecting our differences, and most important, trying to promote my own culture with pride.

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հայերէն բաժին

ՎԵՐԱՊԱՏՈՒԵԼԻ
ԱՐՍԷՆ ԿԵՕՐԿԻԶԵԱՆ
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ՎԵՐ. ՏՈՔԹ. ՀԵՐԸԼՏ
Ա. Կ. ՀԵՍԷՍԵԱՆ



Վեր. Արսէն Կեօրկիզեան, մահացեալ, եւ իր հրեշտակ տիկինը որ այժմ Փրօվիտեմ կը քնակի



Վեր. Տոքթ. Հերըլտ Ա. Կ. Հեսէսեանի կողմէ՝ Վերապատուելի Արսէն Կեօրկիզեան ծնած է Մայր Հայրենիքի հարազատ հողին վրայ։ Ծննդավայրն էր Վան՝ իսկ ծննդեան թուականը՝ Յունիս 19, 1887։

Վերապատուելին, Մարգվանի Անաթօլիա Գօլէճէն կը ստանայ իր Պրօֆեսոր Արուստից տիտղոսը։ Կը յաճախէ Պերլին իլլայէնս Սուրբ Գրգոր Գօլէճը Գերմանիոյ մէջ։ Շարունակելով իր աստուածաբանական ուսումը Բրինսթըն եւ Եոններն աստուածաբանական ճեմարաններուն մէջ՝ 1934ին Եոններն աստուածաբանական ճեմարանէն կը ստանայ Պատկաւոր Աստուածաբանութեան տիտղոսը որը այժմ կը համապատասխանէ Մագիստրոս Աստուածաբանութեան տիտղոսին։

Վերապատուելին կը ձեռնադրուի Պարսկաստանի Թապրիզ քաղաքին մէջ։ Հովուական պաշտօն կը ստանձնէ Վանի, Պագուի եւ Թապրիզի մէջ։

1923ին կուգայ Միացեալ Նահանգներ։ Հովուական պաշտօն կը հրաւիրուի Նիւ Ճորջի Հայ Երիցական Ուսումնական Եկեղեցիին։ Իր հովուութեան շրջանին էր որ Հայ Երիցական եկեղեցւոյ չէնքը կառուցուեցաւ ու եռանդ ստեղծեց հայ գաղութին մէջ։ Իր արժանաւոր հովուական ծառայութիւնը մատուցանելով ժամանակ մը վերջ կը հրաժարի Փեթըրսըն Միչընէն Օգոստոս 1935ին։

Վերապատուելին հովուած է Ֆրէզնոյի Հայ Պանդոսաց եկեղեցին, Ֆաուլթըրի Հայ Ժողովական եկեղեցին, Մէյլըմի Հայ Ժողովական Արարատ եկեղեցին, Հէյվըրհիլի Հայ Ժողովական եկեղեցին, եւ Փրաիտէնսի Հայ Աւետարանական Եփրատ եկեղեցին։

Վերապատուելի Կեօրկիզեան Հայ Աւետարանական Միութեան Նախագահը եղած է 1939-ին, իսկ անոր ար-

ժանաւոր քարտուղարը՝ տասներեք տարի, 1924-1937։

Վերապատուելին կը ճանչնամ 1965էն ի վեր։ Մեր առաջին հանդիպումը եղաւ միութեան արեւելեան շրջանի հովիւներու Մենիկ Օրուայ ընթացքին՝ Ֆրէյմիսկէմի մէջ։ Այդ օրէն ի վեր իրեն հանդէպ կը տածէի երէց կղերականի պատկան յարգանքն ու պատիւը։

Ուսթըրի հովուական շրջանիս գինք աւելի մօտէն ճանչնալով այցելութիւններ փոխանակած ենք։ Ամէն անգամ որ վերապատուելին եկեղեցիս կ'այցելէր՝ երէցիկն էնիին հետ՝ բեմիս վրայ հովուական աթոռ, ու ժողովուրդիս սրտին մէջ ալ տաքուկ տեղ մը վերապահուած կը գտնէի իրեն համար։ Իսկ պաշտամունքէն վերջ ալ տունս գալով կ'օրհնէր սեղանը ու միասին հաց կտրելով յիշատակելի օր մը կ'ունենայինք։ Անգամ մը ճաշի ատեն ըսաւ, «Պատուելիս՝ երբ մեռնիմ դուն պիտի թողես զիս։» Ահա այսպէս էր մեր յարաբերութեան եղանակը։

Երբ Դաւիթ Թագաւորը Աբանների մահուան գոյժը առաւ խիստ յուզուած բացաբանչեց—

«Չէ՞ք գիտեր որ այսօր Իսրայէլի մէջ մեծ զօրավար մը ինկաւ։»

Ուրիշ թարգմանութեանց մէջ գրուած է. «Չէ՞ք գիտեր որ այսօր Իսրայէլի մէջ ՌԱԶՄԻԿ ԻՇԽԱՆ մը ինկաւ։»

Դաւիթին այս խօսքը նաեւ կը պատշաճի Վերապատուելին ու ի յայտ կը բերէ անոր յատկանիշներէն նուազագոյն երեք հատը։ Անտարակոյս, Վերապատուելին Հայ Աւետար-

անական Շարժման՝ Քրիստոսի նուիրական բանակին մէջ ԶՕՐԱՎԱՐ, ԻՇԽԱՆ ու ՄԵԾ ՌԱԶՄԻԿներէն մին եղած էր։

Վերապատուելին՝ ամէնուն ծանօթ գրասէրն ու գրագէտն էր։ Անիկա պարտաճանաչ դաստիարակը Բանն Աստուծոյ, անվեհեր քարոզիչը Քրիստոսի Աւետարանին եւ անխոնջ մշակն էր դաշտին։ Անիկա ժրջան, շինարար, կազմակերպիչ ու վարիչ պաշտօնեան էր Հայ Աւետարանական եկեղեցւոյ։ Ան յարգուած մտաւորական մը եւ շատերէն հաւուած կղերական մըն էր։ Ան արթուն պահակն էր իր ժողովուրդին, բարի հովիւր իր հոտին, պաշտպանը հայ գիր ու գիրքին, լեզուին, մշակոյթին եւ հայ ժողովուրդին։

Վերապատուելին հարազատ հայ մըն էր բառին բովանդակ առումովը։ Անոր սրտին, մտքին ու հոգւոյն մէջ Աստուածապաշտութիւնն ու ազգասիրութիւնը համեմատելիս միաձուլուած ըլլալով՝ իր նկարագրին ու անձնաւորութեան անբաժան մասը կը կազմէին։ Ան կը պաշտէր զԱստուած Հայ Աւետարանական համոզումով ու կը սիրէր Հայ ազգն ու Հայրենիքը ինքնագիտակից ու պարտաճանաչ հայու հոգիով։

Մեր հոգեւոր երգերէն մին կ'ըսէ, «Մեր ետեւէն հետք օգտակար ձգել է պարտք մեզի։» Վերապատուելին իր ետեւէն «հետք օգտակար» ձգած է մեզի։ Անոր հրատարակութիւնները ժառանգ են Հայ Աւետարանական Միութեան մասնաւորապէս՝ եւ Հայ ժողովուրդին ընդհանրապէս։ Հոս կը յիշենք անոնցմէ երեք հատը—

1. ՎԱՍՊՈՒՐԱԿԱՆԻ ՀԵՐՈՍԱՄԱՐՏԸ Հրատարակուած 1965ին։ Մեծ Եղեռնի Յիսմամբակի առթիւ Թէֆէեան Մշակութային Միութեան կողմէ կազմակերպուած ստեղծագործական մրցամիջեքու մէջ՝ պատմագրութեամբ ԵՐԿՐՈՐԴ մրցանակի արժանացած։

2. ՄԵՐ ԱԶԳԱՅԻՆ ԳՈՅԱՄԱՐՏԸ Հրատարակուած 1967ին։ Այս աշխատասիրութիւնը երկու հարիւր տուար մրցանակով գնահատուեցաւ Հայկաշէն Ուգուեման Գրական Մըրցանակի Յանձնախումբին։

3. ՊԱՒԴԻԿԵԱՆ-ԹՈՆԴՐԱԿԵՑԻՆԵՐՈՒ ԾԱՐԺՈՒՄԸ ՀԱՅՑ. ԱՌԱՔԵԼԱԿԱՆ ԵԿԵՂԵՑԻՈՅ ՄԵՋ Է-ԺԲ ԴԱՐ Հրատարակուած 1970ին։ Այս գիրքը նուիրուած է երէցիկն էմնի Կեօրկիզեանի, առ ի գնահատմամբ այն քոյրամուկը ծառայութեան ու գոյրգուրտ խնամքին, որ էմնիմ տուած է Վերապատուելիին իր երկարատեւ հիւանդութեան շրջանին։

Վերապատուելին հրատարակութիւններն ու յօդուածները կը ցոլացնեն անոր նկարագրին ցայտուն յատկանիշներն ու անձնաւորութեան ազնայայտ ու հաստատ գիծերը։ Անիկա տէրն էր քննադատ մտքի եւ յստակատեւ ու անաչառ դատողութեան։ Հմուտ էր Մեսրոպատառ մայրենի լեզուին։ Անոր աստուածաբանական տեսութիւնն ու վարդապետական դաւանանքը հիմնական, Աւետարանական համոզումները հաստատ ու հաւատքը անխախտ էր։

Վերապատուելին քաջարի հոգեւորական մըն էր իր պարթեւ հասակով ու իշխանական կեցուածքով։ Ան եղած է սիրող ու զոհող հայ մը իր զաւակներուն, սիրող ու հաւատարիմ պաշտպան ամուսին մը իր կողակցին ու «ՊԱՏՈՒԵԼԻ»ն ընդհանուր հայ համայնքին։

Վերապատուելին սիրեց իր եկեղեցին ու իր ազգը։ Իրեն համար ամէն հայ անհատ՝ թանկագին յիշատակ մըն էր Մնացորդաց՝ Հայ ազգին։ Ան իր ազգին զաւակներուն հետ կրեց չարչարանք, հալածանք, տառապանք, գրկանք ու նախատինք։ Պանդըրաւութեան ցուպը ձեռքին քայլեց Վանէն մինչեւ Ամերիկա։ Անցաւ

Ջարդէն։ Մինչ կը քայլէր ամէն քայլահարկին կը մխիթարէր հայորդիները որոնք կը յօշոտուէին պատառ առ պատառ ազգասպան թուրքին դանակին տակ։ Վերապատուելին սիրտը կը փոթորկէր ու հոգին կը վրդովէր ոճրագործ թուրքէն անմեղ Հայուն հոգեւոր թուրքէն համար։ Ան բաց աչքերով կը սպասէր արդար դատաստանի մը, հաշուարարի մը որ տաճիկը ստանար իր արդար ու արժանաւոր հատուցումը։ Վերապատուելին մէկ բան չէր կրնար ընել՝ ան ալ ներել թուրքին. որովհետեւ բացուած վէրքը խորունկ ու կորուստը անչափելի էր անմեղ Հայուն համար։

Ասով հանգերձ Վերապատուելին յաղթական կերպով դիմագրաւեց մահը իր ուխտեամեակին։ Իբր անվեհեր զօրավարը Քրիստոսի բանակին՝ հաւատքի զրահը վրան, հազած՝ ու փրկութեան յոյսի սաղաւարտը գլուխը դրած միշտ զգաստ ու արթուն էր ան։ Դիւցազնութեան դէմը վեր բռնած եւ Հոգւոյն սուրը որ ԱՍՏՈՒԾՈՅ ԽՕՍԲԸ է, իր ձեռքին մէջ՝ երկար տաքիներ մարտնչեց մահուան հետ։ Զայն դիմագրաւեց անվախ ու իշխանական կեցուածքով։ Յաճախ մահուան կոչ ուղղեց ու Աստուած իր կեանքը երկարեց։ Երբ մահը կը մօտենար՝ ան հաւատքի գօտին մէջը կապած կոչ կ'ուղղէր մահուան ըսելով,

«Ո՞ր է ով մահ քու խայթոցը. ո՞ր է ով գերեզման քու յաղթութիւնդ. գոհութիւն Աստուծոյ, որ մեզի յաղթութիւն կուտայ մեր Տէր Յիսուս Քրիստոսի Զեռքով։»

Պողոս Առաքեալին վերջին խօսքը կը պատշաճի նաեւ մեր եղբորը Վերապատուելի Արսէն Կեօրկիզեանին։ Ինքն ալ առաքեալին նման ԲԱՐԻ ՊԱՏԵՐԱԶՄԸ ՊԱՏԵՐԱԶՄԵՑԱԻ ՈՒ ՀԱՒԱՏՔԸ ՊԱՀԵՑ իր կեանքի ամբողջ տեւողութեան։ Ուստի՝ Վերապատուելին ալ վերապահուած է ԱՐԴԱՐՈՒԹԵԱՆ ՊՍԱԿԸ որ արդար Տէրը կը հատուցանէ։

Յիսուս ըսաւ, իմ հօրս տունը շատ բնակարաններ կան։ Բաւարար տեղ կայ համայն հայ ազգին ու մարդկութեան եթէ կը հաւատան։ Կ'ուզենք հաւատալ թէ՛ մեր եղբայրը իր ներկայ բնակատեղին փոխելով՝ սիրած ու պաշտած, երկնային Հօրը պատ-

րաստած բնակարանը փոխադրուելով կ'արձանագրուի, «Կենաց Գիրքին» մէջ։

Մեր համոզումը այն է որ՝ Արսէնը Աստուծոյ կենդանի ներկայութեանը մէջ ըլլալով Հօրը շնորհած սուրբ գահին շուրջ՝ Սերովքէներով ու արդարներով կը փառաբանէ զԱստուած յաւիտեանականապէս։

Տէրը մեզի պարգեւեց Վերապատուելին. ուստի փառք կուտանք Աստուծոյ անոր բեղուն ու զեղուն կեանքով Քրիստոսի եկեղեցին չէնցնելուն ու պայծառացնելուն համար։ Գոհութիւն մը մատուցանենք Աստուծոյ որ շատ մը անձիք մխիթարութիւն, առաջնորդութիւն ու սիրտ-փանք գտած են իրմով եւ այժմ Տէրն է որ գինք իր քով կանչեց. օրհնեալ ըլլայ իր անունը։

Կ'աղօթենք որ մխիթարիչն սուրբ Հոգին մխիթարէ այլի երէցիկն էնին, Վերապատուելին զաւակներն ու ազգականները ու երախտագէտ ժողովուրդը որ կը զգան ցաւը ու կը սգան անփոխարինելի կորուստը։

Շատեր իր մասին կ'ըսեն he was a fine man. »

Թող Վերապատուելին անոյշ յիշատակները անչէջ մնան զինք սիրող ու յարգող անձերուն սրտին մէջ այժմ ու յաւիտեանս։ Ամէն։

* Խօսուած Մարտ 28, 1977ին, Վեր. Արսէն Կեօրկիզեանի Յուդարկաւորութեան պաշտամունքի ընթացքին։

Ծ. Խմբ.

Եւ այս է յաւիտեանական կեանքը, որ ճանչնան քեզ միմիայն ճշմարիտ Աստուածը, ու Յիսուս Քրիստոսը որ դուն զրկեցիր։ Յովհ. Ժէ. 3

Որախոսեամբ կը ծանուցանեմք թէ Վեր. Հերըլտ Հասէսեան եւ իր ազնիւ տիկինը Մօնթէվիտօ պիտի գտնուին Յուլիս 28—Օգոստոս 28ի շրջանին հովուական առաքելութեամբ։ Վստահ եմ որ Վեր. Հասէսեան մեծ ներշնչում պիտի բերէ Մօնթէվիտօ-ի մեր գաղութին։



ARMENIAN ETHNIC PRESENCE IN AMERICAN LIBRARIES

Convinced that American libraries should contain subjects on Armenian ethnic material, especially at this period in American life when minority cultures are being promoted, the Armenian Missionary Association of America devised a plan to offer five books to U.S. College, University and Public libraries at a reduced price. The publications, as they appear on this sheet, deal with Armenian subjects, and all five books are offered for a small amount of \$9.50.

The Association, in a stroke of genius, forwarded brochures with return coupons to 9,000 libraries. These are, however, main libraries and do not cover the local city libraries. There are hundreds of thousands of small local libraries that should carry an Armenian ethnic presence. It is impossible for the Armenian Missionary Association of America to make literature available to the small libraries, but *you* can help have ethnic presence in your local library. How? by filling in the coupon below and asking us to make a present from you to the library. It will only cost you \$9.50 but might do \$9,500 worth of good for all of us Armenians.

Would you like to assist? Please fill in the coupon below and send it in to us with your donation of \$9.50 which will be tax exempt.

Gentlemen of the AMAA:

Please send your package of 5 books to my local library as follows:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____

☐ Please bill me:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

OBITUARIES

MR. SAMUEL AVAKIAN



Samuel Avakian and his surviving wife, Rose.

One of the founding members of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, N.J. and many-term Board member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, entered his eternal rest on Thursday, May 26th, at the age of 84. Funeral services were held at the Armenian Presbyterian Church. The Rev. Bernard Guekguezian officiated and Elder George Philibosian delivered the Eulogy.

Born in Kharpert and educated in Euphrates College, he came to this country as a young man and established a photo-engraving business.

He was one of those individuals who did not permit business to limit his services to God. As a committed Christian and a man of many talents, he served the Church of Christ, the mission of the Church through the AMAA, the community and his nation faithfully, always flavoring everything he did with the spirit of Christ. In the Church he served as a Trustee, Elder, Choir Director, Sunday School Superintendent and in the AMAA as a faithful and dynamic Board member in addition to being a generous contributor. He also worked faithfully and lovingly in the Armenian communities of New York and New Jersey.

Perhaps it was providential that he was at a special service at the Armenian Presbyterian Church on Sunday, May 22. AMAA Sunday was being observed in the Sanctuary and Social Hall of the very church which he loved and in which he served. Mr. George Philibosian, referring to that visit in his Eulogy, said: "It was only 10 days ago when Sam was visiting our Church. After the services, he pulled me aside in a corner, and with eyes full of nostalgic reminiscences, he would say to me 'George, you don't know how much I love this Church and these people.

They mean so much to me and my family. You don't know how happy I am that the Church has good leadership now from Pastor all the way; and doing so well.. I am so happy..' and he would hug me and burst in tears."

Mr. Philibosian summed up his life in these glorious words: "His was an admirable life of dedication and service to his family, his church, to all good causes and friends. It is a life that should ever continue to serve as example to us all—as it has been to me, a life which was always guided, to use his words once more, by this question.. 'What will it profit a man if he earned the whole world, but he lost his soul?'"

An important time in the life of Mr. Avakian was November 13, 1920, when he married the former Miss Rose Kafafyan, who became a model as a wife and the world could learn much from her and the blessed life Sam and Rose had together. In Sam's words: "I want to mention how happy I have been, and how thankful, for having these long years the companionship, the help and loving understanding of my dear wife. Some call marriage a gamble; the union of two loving lives, under the guidance of God, is Paradise on earth."

In lieu of flowers, memorials have been designated to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, Inc. which is a testimony to Mr. Avakian's zeal for Missions and Evangelism. The memorials in his name will be turned into an endowment fund, the proceeds from which will be used for the important mission of the Association.

The Board of Directors of the AMAA take this opportunity to extend heartfelt condolences to his beloved wife, Rose, and to his three children Marion Slater, Leon Avakian and Helen Eberle and their families.

The AMAA Board would like to take this opportunity to extend its heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased through the medium of the AMAA NEWS.

Mrs. Varter Surabian
Fresno, Ca. September 15, 1976

*Mr. Samuel Avakian
Neptune, N.J. May 26, 1977

Rev. Roupen Kayayan
Seine, France May 1977

Mrs. Sadie Alexander
Fresno, Ca.

*Mrs. Perouz Mirzaian Casparian
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

*Mr. Frederick Regauld
Calif.

Mrs. A. Kassabian
Birmingham, Mich.

*Signifies that memorials were designated for AMAA.

TELEGRAM TO EXPRESS HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO

MRS. KAVOOKJIAN

Dear Mrs. Kavookjian:

The news of Mr. Kavookjian's passing is a great sorrow to all of us. We who knew him had a genuine love and respect for him. He will be long remembered for his steadfast services to the Armenian community.

The Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America and its Members at Large extend sincere and heartfelt sympathies to you in your bereavement.

Archie Cherkezian,
President

G.H. Chopourian,
Executive Director

on behalf of the Armenian
Missionary Association
of America

ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION

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to Armenia and the Seven Churches in Asia. This does not ob-
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BOOKS RECEIVED:

THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES
ON CHURCH GROWTH

Harvie M. Con, Editor
Presbyterian & Reformed Pub. Co.,
Nutley, N.J. 1976, pp. 149, \$4.95.

The book, with seven writers sharing
their convictions, is grounded in the
conviction that the preaching and ap-
plication of the doctrines of sovereign
grace will bear fruit in a growing world
church.

The Kalimantan Kenyah

a study of

TRIBAL CONVERSION

in terms of dynamic cultural themes

William Conley
Presbyterian & Reformed Pub. Co.,
Nutley, N.J. 1976, pp. 418, \$4.95.

The subject focuses on the time be-
tween 1930 and 1965 during which the
Kenyah tribal group numbering about
35,000 in Indonesian Kalimantan were
converted to Christianity. This study is
an attempt to analyze the conversion
process in terms of the culture's own
dynamic.

ARMENIAN NEW TESTAMENT 263
1976, pp. 709, \$2.75

In Eastern Armenian, printed in Korea
by special permission of His Holiness,
Vasken I.